

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Amend claims:1-6

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ for the preparation of ethene, propene and butene by steam cracking~~[[,]]~~ comprising: subjecting wherein the a feed comprising heavy hydrocarbons obtained by Fischer-Tropsch synthesis, which Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbons have an initial boiling point of above 150 °C and a final boiling point of below 400 °C, is subjected to steam cracking in a naphtha designed steam cracking furnace, wherein the furnace comprises a convection zone provided with a first preheating zone in which the Fischer-Tropsch feed is heated, a second preheating zone in which the heated Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbons are heated in the presence of steam to form a mixture of liquid and gaseous Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbons; and a super heating zone in which the liquid and gaseous Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbons are super heated; and a cracking zone in which the gaseous super heated Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbons are steam cracked into ethene, propene and butene.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Method as claimed in~~ claim 1, wherein the feed for the second preheating zone comprises less than 50 wt.%, ~~preferably less than 25 wt.%, more preferably less than 10 wt.%~~ liquid Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbons.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Method as claimed in~~ claims 1-2, wherein the weight ratio of steam to Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbons is 0.4-0.8, ~~preferably 0.5-0.75, more preferably 0.60-0.70.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Method as claimed in~~ claims 1-3, wherein the Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbons comprise more than 75 wt.% n-~~paraffines~~ paraffins.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Method as claimed in~~ claim 4, wherein the n-~~paraffines~~ paraffins have a carbon number of 10-20.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Method as claimed in claims 1-5, wherein the Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbons are essentially free of aromatic compounds, nitrogen N-compounds and/or sulfur S-compounds.